

**II. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

--Please amend the second paragraph on page 4 as follows.

**DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION**

The copolymers of the present invention may be graft, alternating or block copolymers, or mixtures thereof. Suitable copolymers which have retentive properties are described in the following references:

- J. Wen, G. L. Wilkes, Polymer Bulletin, 1996, 37, 51-57  
J. Hazziza-Laskar, G. Helary, G. Sauvet, J. Appl. Polym. Sci., 1995, 58, 77-84  
Tezuka et. al., Macromolecules, 1995, 28(24), 8251-8258  
P. Schofield, C. Cohen, C. K. Ober, Polymer Gels & Networks, 1998, 6(3-4), 291-300  
T. Furuzuno, K. Seki, A. Kishida, T. Ohshige, K. Waki, I. Maruyama, M. Akashi, J. Appl. Polym. Sci., 1996, 59, 1059-1065  
D. Spridon, L. Panaiteescu, D. Ursu, C. V. Uglea, I. Popa, R. M. Ottenbrite, Polymer International, 1997, 43, 175-181  
J. C. Schmidhauser, K. L. Longley, J. Appl. Polym. Sci., 1990, 39, 2083-2096  
L. Lestel, H. Cheradame, S. Boileau, Polymer, 1990, 31, 1154-1158  
G. E. Hahn, K. D. Klein, I. Yilgor, C. Could; In Silicone-Containing Polymers; Editor, R.G. Jones; The Royal Society of Chemistry: Cambridge, UK; 1995; pp 81-87  
M. A. Sherman, J. P. Kennedy, J. Appl. Polym. Sci., 1998, 30, 1891-1899

--Please amend the paragraph bridging pages 4-5, which begins at the bottom of page 4, as follows.

Examples of the retentive components of such copolymers are:

- polyvinylacetate (PVA) polymers  
polyurethane polymers and ionomers

terephthalate polymers  
styrene-acrylonitrile (SAN)/acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (ABS) copolymers  
vinylidene polymers  
polybutadiene  
epoxy polymers  
amide polymers  
Bisphenol polymers  
Bisphenol A (BPA) – epichlorohydrin polymers  
poly (methyl) methacrylate polymers  
poly (methacrylic acid) polymers  
cellulose polymers  
polyethylene vinyl alcohol polymers  
polyethylene glycol (PEG)  
functionalised silane and siloxane polymers  
polymers (e.g. silane and siloxane polymers) comprising isoprene, butadiene, lactone, amino, terephthalate, amino acid, heterocyclic, hydride (SiH), thiol or epoxy functionalities,  
and mixtures thereof, provided that they the copolymers also comprise the required flexible components (as defined above).

---Please add the following paragraph on page 5 after the paragraph bridging pages 4-5.

The flexible component may, for example, be selected from the group including, but not limited to, any of the following:

polyacrylate  
polybutylene  
polybutadiene  
polydienes  
polyisoprene  
polyethylene  
polyvinylethers  
polyvinylchloride  
polyvinylidene fluoride

polytetrafluoroethylene

polyalkenes

polyalkanes

polysiloxanes

polysilanes

polysilazanes